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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TAKASHI SUZUKI

Application No.: 09/712,268

Filed: November 15, 2000

For: INFORMATION  
PROCESSING APPARATUS  
AND PROCESSING METHOD  
THEREFOR

Examiner: N/Y/A

Group Art Unit: 2622

September 25, 2003

**RECEIVED**

OCT 01 2003

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

September 25, 2003  
(Date of Deposit)

Dennis A. Duchene (Reg. No. 40,595)  
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

September 25, 2003  
Date of Signature

U.S. Patent No. 5,982,956

EP 0 854 633

EP 0 884 669

EP 0 951 175

EP 1 043 883

JP 8-50434

WO 96/31049

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, dated June 25, 2003, is enclosed.

In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

An English-language abstract for the Japanese document cited in the European Search Report is enclosed. Also, the Examiner is directed to the European Search Report for a concise explanation of relevance for each of the documents listed above.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Attorney for Applicant

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